

PFAS chemicals or per- and poly- fluoroalkyl substances are synthetic chemicals found in many everyday products. They have been widely used in many industrial and consumer applications as they are effective at resisting heat, stains, grease and water.

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHRMC) has stated that drinking water supplies that comply with the current [Australian Drinking Water Guidelines](#) (ADWG) is safe to drink.

The guideline values show the amount of PFAS in drinking water that a person can consume on a daily basis over a lifetime without any appreciable risk to health.

On Wednesday, 25 June 2025, the NHMRC released updated health-based guidelines which outline new, lower recommended values of PFAS in drinking water. Read more at their webpage; [PFAS and drinking water - information and updates](#)

Water providers are not legally required to meet the new drinking water guidelines until the finalised guideline values are published in the ADWG and adopted by each state and territory.

It is expected that it will take time and resources to implement the new PFAS guideline values in Australia.

For further information about PFAS please refer to the fact sheet from the Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA); [Per- and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances \(PFAS\) Fact Sheet](#)

Council undertakes a regular sampling program of source and treated water for PFAS in accordance with the ADWG and NSW Health standards.

The most recent sample results conducted by a National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) accredited laboratory are presented in the below table.

Characteristic	National Health & Medical Research Council - Unit ng/L	Australian Drinking Water Guidelines - Unit µg/L	Gilgandra Sample Locations	Date Sample Taken	ADWG Results µg/L
PFOA - Perfluorooctanoic acid	200	0.2	Bore 1 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFOS - Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	8	0.008	Bore 1 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFHxS - Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	30	0.03	Bore 1 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFBS - Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	1000	1	Bore 1 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
GenX chemicals - Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid & its ammonium salt	No health-based guideline value	No health-based guideline value			
PFOA - Perfluorooctanoic acid	200	0.2	Bore 5 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFOS - Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	8	0.008	Bore 5 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFHxS - Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	30	0.03	Bore 5 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFBS - Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	1000	1	Bore 5 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
GenX chemicals - Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid & its ammonium salt	No health-based guideline value	No health-based guideline value			
PFOA - Perfluorooctanoic acid	200	0.2	Bore 6 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFOS - Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	8	0.008	Bore 6 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFHxS - Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	30	0.03	Bore 6 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFBS - Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	1000	1	Bore 6 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
GenX chemicals - Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid & its ammonium salt	No health-based guideline value	No health-based guideline value			

PFOA - Perfluorooctanoic acid	200	0.2	Bore 7 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFOS - Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	8	0.008	Bore 7 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFHxS - Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	30	0.03	Bore 7 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFBS - Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	1000	1	Bore 7 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
GenX chemicals - Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid & its ammonium salt	No health-based guideline value	No health-based guideline value			
PFOA - Perfluorooctanoic acid	200	0.2	Bore 9 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFOS - Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	8	0.008	Bore 9 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFHxS - Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	30	0.03	Bore 9 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFBS - Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	1000	1	Bore 9 - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
GenX chemicals - Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid & its ammonium salt	No health-based guideline value	No health-based guideline value			
PFOA - Perfluorooctanoic acid	200	0.2	Gilgandra WTP - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFOS - Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	8	0.008	Gilgandra WTP - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFHxS - Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	30	0.03	Gilgandra WTP - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFBS - Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	1000	1	Gilgandra WTP - Raw Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
GenX chemicals - Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid & its ammonium salt	No health-based guideline value	No health-based guideline value			
PFOA - Perfluorooctanoic acid	200	0.2	Gilgandra WTP - Treated Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFOS - Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid	8	0.008	Gilgandra WTP - Treated Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFHxS - Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid	30	0.03	Gilgandra WTP - Treated Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
PFBS - Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid	1000	1	Gilgandra WTP - Treated Water	23/09/2025	<0.001
GenX chemicals - Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid & its ammonium salt	No health-based guideline value	No health-based guideline value			

